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# Regional and Local Economic Development

CLIFF HAGUE, EVAN HAGUE AND CARRIE BREITE

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The context in which planning operates has changed dramatically in recent years. Economic processes have become increasingly globalized and new spatial patterns of economic activity have emerged. There have been major changes across the globe, not just changing administrations in various countries but also the sweeping away of old ideologies and the tentative emergence of new ones. A new environmental agenda emerged from the Brundtland Report and the Rio Earth Summit prioritizing the goal of sustainable development. The momentum for this has been maintained by continued action at international, national and local levels.

Cities are today faced with new pressures for economic competitiveness, greater accountability and participation, improved quality of life for citizens and global environmental responsibilities. These pressures are often contradictory and create difficult dilemmas for policy-makers, especially in the context of fiscal austerity. New relationships are developing between the levels of state activity and between public and private sectors as different interests respond to the new conditions.

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Cliff Hague, Pat Wakely, Julie Crespín and Chris Jasko, *Making Planning Work: A Guide to Approaches and Skills* (Practical Action, 2006)

Cliff Hague and Will French, *Urban Challenges: Scoping the State of the Commonwealth's Cities* (ComHabitat, 2010)

Euan Hague, Winifred Curran and the Pilsen Alliance, *Contested Chicago – Pilsen and Gentrification/Pilsen y el aburguesamiento: Una lucha para conservar nuestra comunidad* ([www.lulu.com](http://www.lulu.com), 2008)

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